

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/921,832

Applicant : Hong et al.

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Examiner: : Shin, K.

Docket No. : 4366-49

Customer No. : 22442

Title: NON-INTRUSIVE MULTIPLEXED TRANSACTION PERSISTENCY IN
SECURE COMMERCE ENVIRONMENTS

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance to address further the Notice of Allowability ("Notice") having a mailing date of September 26, 2006.

In the Notice, the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance were that the cited prior art of record, either alone or in combination, fails to teach the capability that encrypted transaction requests to be received from different clients having a common electronic address and served simultaneously by different informational servers at least some of the responses to include a cookie and a tag, which to be generated by the content director to identify uniquely a corresponding informational server previously selected to service transaction requests from the

Client. The tag to be independent of an electronic address (i.e. IP address and a TCP port number) associated with the corresponding informational server and the flow switch to use the tag in the parsed plain text equivalent of each transaction request to select an appropriate informational server. Based on the Notice, the patentability of all other independent and dependent claims is assumed to be based upon the elements as set forth in such claims and that such claims meet all criteria for patentability under §101, §102, §103 and §112.

As is clear from MPEP 1302.14,

“The statement [of reasons for allowance] is not intended to necessarily state all the reasons for allowance or all the details why claims are allowed and should not be written to specifically or impliedly state that all the reasons for allowance are set forth.”

While Applicant agrees that the above-stated is a reason for allowing some independent claims, Applicant submits that some independent claims have a different reason for allowance and that some independent claims have other reasons for allowance.

Specifically, the prior art fails to teach the following features of independent Claims 38, 53, and 69:

38. An arrangement for serving information requests, comprising:
a plurality of informational servers connected to a communications network, all of the informational servers having a common address on the communications network and serving a set of information to clients, each of the informational servers being configured to receive a transaction request associated with an individual transaction and to provide a response to each transaction request; and

a content director connecting the informational servers to the communications network and distributing transaction requests among the informational servers comprising:

a flow switch that parses plain text transaction requests to locate selected packet payload fields, selects, based on the plain text packet payload fields, an appropriate informational server to service each transaction request, and

thereafter forwards at least portions of the parsed transaction requests to a selected one of the informational servers; and

a cryptographic module that decrypts, prior to parsing and informational server selection by the flow switch, cipher text transaction requests and provides plain text transaction requests to the flow switch, wherein, prior to decryption, the cipher text transaction requests have not been routed by another flow switch.

53. In an arrangement comprising a plurality of informational servers connected to a communications network, all of the informational servers having a common address on the communications network and serving a set of information to clients, each of the informational servers being configured to receive a transaction request associated with an individual transaction and to generate a corresponding response to the transaction request, at least one of the request and response including a packet payload tag identifying uniquely the responding informational server and being an identifier other than an electronic address, and to provide a response to each transaction request, a method for serving transaction requests from clients, comprising:

a cryptographic module decrypting a cipher text transaction request to provide a plain text transaction request to a first flow switch, the plain text transaction requests comprising the payload tag;

the first flow switch parsing the plain text transaction request to locate one or more selected fields including the payload tag;

the first flow switch, based on the one or more selected fields, selecting an appropriate informational server to service the transaction request; and

the first flow switch thereafter forwarding at least portions of the plain text transaction request to a selected one of the informational servers, wherein the cipher text transaction request is decrypted prior to the parsing and selecting steps.

69. An arrangement for serving information requests, comprising:

a plurality of informational servers connected to a communications network, all of the informational servers having a common address on the communications network and serving a set of information to clients, each of the informational servers being configured to receive a transaction request associated with an individual transaction, to generate a corresponding cookie identifying uniquely the generating informational server, and to provide a response to each transaction request; and

a content director connecting the informational servers to the communications network and distributing transaction requests among the informational servers comprising:

first flow switching means for (a) parsing plain text transaction requests to locate selected fields including a generated tag, the tag being shorter

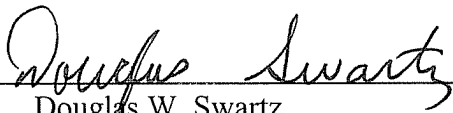
than the cookie, uniquely identifying an informational server, and being an identifier other than an electronic address, (b) selecting, based at least in part on the generated tag, an appropriate informational server to service each transaction request, and (c) thereafter forwarding at least portions of the parsed transaction requests to a selected one of the informational servers;

decrypting means for decrypting, prior to parsing and informational server selection by the first flow switching means, cipher text transaction requests and providing plain text transaction requests to the first flow switching means, wherein, prior to the decrypting function, the cipher text transaction request has not been directed to a flow switching means other than the first flow switching means.

Although the Applicant believes that no fees are due for filing this Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance, please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Respectfully submitted,

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